

Application No. 10/528,352  
Amendment B dated December 11, 2008  
Reply to Office Action mailed July 11, 2008

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### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

*The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:*

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A stent system for placement in a body-lumen which is expandable from a contracted state to an expanded state, comprising:  
a stent having a ~~a[[n]] sandblast, roughened~~ exterior surface, a ~~a[[n]] sandblast, roughened~~ interior surface and side surfaces, wherein at least a portion of the exterior surface and the interior surface is roughened to a predetermined extent for coating with a therapeutic agent drug, ~~wherein the surfaces are roughened by sandblasting.~~
2. (Canceled).
3. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the side surfaces is roughened to a predetermined extent.
4. (Currently Amended) The stent system according to claim 3, wherein the exterior surface, the interior surface, or the side surfaces are coated with Tacrolimus as the ~~[[drug]]~~ therapeutic agent loaded directly to the roughened surface.
5. (Original) The stent system according to claim 1, wherein the said stent comprises a stainless steel.
6. (Original) The stent system according to claim 1 further comprising a balloon catheter for delivering the stent.
- 7-20. (Canceled).
21. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 1, wherein the roughened surface is prepared by sandblasting with at least one of sand, glass beads, or corundum.

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22. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 21, wherein the sandblasting removes imperfections from the roughened surface.

23. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 21, wherein burrs are removed from the stent before sandblasting such that the sandblasting produces a roughened more uniform surface with increased flow dynamics and less turbulence.

24. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 23, wherein the removing of burrs comprises removing the imperfections by electropolishing.

25. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 21, wherein the sandblasting includes sand.

26. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 21, wherein the sandblasting includes glass beads.

27. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 21, wherein the sandblasting includes corundum particles.

28. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 27, wherein the roughened surface includes the corundum particles.

29-30. (Canceled).

31. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 28, wherein the roughened surface with corundum particles is coating with Tacrolimus.

32. (Currently Amended) The stent system according to claim 31, wherein the Tacrolimus is coated onto the roughened surface by spraying the [[drug]] therapeutic agent on said surface.

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33. (Previously Presented) The stent system according to claim 32, wherein the stent is annealed after the surface has been roughened so as to increase the flexibility of the stent.
34. (New) A stent system for placement in a body lumen which is expandable from a contracted state to an expanded state, comprising a stent having a sandblast-roughened and annealed exterior surface, an interior surface, wherein at least a portion of the exterior surface and the interior surface is roughened to a predetermined extent for coating with a therapeutic agent.
35. (New) The stent system according to claim 34, wherein at least a portion of the side surfaces is roughened to a predetermined extent.
36. (New) The stent system according to claim 35, wherein the exterior surface, the interior surface, or the side surfaces are coated with Tacrolimus as the therapeutic agent loaded directly to the roughened surface.
37. (New) The stent system according to claim 34, wherein the sandblast-roughened and annealed exterior surface includes sandblasting particles.
38. (New) The stent system according to claim 37, wherein the sandblasting particles comprise sand.
39. (New) A stent system for placement in a body lumen which is expandable from a contracted state to an expanded state, comprising a stent having a sandblast-roughened and annealed exterior surface, a sandblast-roughened and annealed interior surface, wherein at least a portion of the exterior surface and the interior surface is roughened to a predetermined extent for coating with a therapeutic agent and includes sandblasting particles.
40. (New) The stent system according to claim 39, wherein at least a portion of the side surfaces is roughened to a predetermined extent.

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41. (New) The stent system according to claim 40, wherein the exterior surface, the interior surface, or the side surfaces are coated with Tacrolimus as the therapeutic agent loaded directly to the roughened surface.

42. (New) The stent system according to claim 39, wherein the sandblasting particles comprise sand.